

**DETECTION OF PATIENT MORTALITY BY  
AN IMPLANTABLE MEDICAL DEVICE**

**Abstract**

5 An implantable cardiac rhythm management device is programmed and configured to detect a death event. When such an event is detected, the device ceases recording of physiological data, thus preserving in the device's memory the data collected at and shortly before the time of death. A death event may be detected by detecting of an absence of intrinsic electrical activity in the patient's heart and a lack  
10 of an evoked response to a predetermined number of pacing pulses.

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV332571271US

Date of Deposit: July 7, 2003

This paper or fee is being deposited on the date indicated above with the United States Postal Service pursuant to 37 CFR 1.10, and is addressed to the Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O.Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.